GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2860
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2004
TEA TRIBES OF ASSAM
Subba Shri Moni Kumar

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had received representations last year through Members of Parliament for recognition of 60 lakhs of the Tea Tribes population which constitutes the driving force of Assam Tea industry as Scheduled Tribes of Assam;

(b) if so, whether the Chanda Commission, the Lokur Commission and the Pakaskar Commission had all recommended for grant of tribal status to these Tribes in Assam

(c) if so, the steps have so far been taken to grants tribal status to these tribals in Assam; and

(d) the reasons for the delay?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. The Advisory Committee on the report of the revision of the list of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes known as Lokur Commission and Chanda Committee Report has not recommended Tea Plantation tribal labour as Scheduled Tribes.

(c) & (d) The proposal of the Government of Assam for inclusion of Tea Tribes to include in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Assam State has been sent to Registrar General of India as per the approved modalities.

No time frame can be assigned for final decision in this matter, as it required consultation with several agencies.